

SHOCK

JAN
PDC
50¢

CHILLING TALES OF HORROR AND SUSPENSE



THE VAMPIRE'S BONES
WERE-FIENDS OF FINLAND
THE GIRL WHO
DIED TWICE
HAUNT OF THE HYENA
THE BAT AND THE BRAIN

**A Jewel Among
Swiss-made Watches**

FAMOUS

Pilot's Chronograph

Check Speed • For Measuring Distances

For Checking Parking Meters

For Timing Sports Events

Use As Stop Watch



\$12⁹⁵



6 DIALS, 5 HANDS AND 2 PUSHBUTTON CONTROLS

Made famous by pilots who found it an accurate timepiece, and a more valuable than a precision instrument—if you like to fly, or drive sports cars, record your speed per mile, this will do the job. All 5 hands are machine-calibrated in Switzerland where the complete works are assembled. It is shock-resistant, antimagnetic, has an unbreakable mainspring, big sweep second hand, luminous dial and hands, gold-colored die-cast case, and a leather strap. It's a great watch for only \$12.95 plus 65¢ postage and handling. And it's fully guaranteed for 1 year! In every way.

Dept. CP-3

JALART HOUSE, 1199 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10001

JALART HOUSE, Dept. CP-3

1199 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10001

Rush me Pilot's Chronograph Watches @ \$12.95 plus 65¢ postage and handling.

Enclosed is check or m.o. for

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

SHOCK

CHILLING TALES OF HORROR AND SUSPENSE

JANUARY 1971 CONTENTS VOL. 2, NO. 6

THE BAT AND THE BRAIN 4

When a man plays with forces of the beyond, no one can tell where they will end

WERE-FIENDS OF FINLAND 12

From the depths of an ancient land came creatures sworn to kill all who opposed them

THE GIRL WHO DIED TWICE..... 20

A doom of horror faced her because of a curse that was placed two hundred years ago

HAUNT OF THE HYENA..... 28

Within the old mansion a horror was waiting, ready to kill those who invaded its domain

ARTIST OF EVIL..... 36

On the surface they were only things of canvas and paint . . . but within them lurked unspeakable terror

THE VAMPIRE'S BONES..... 44

He brought a dead vampire back to life—now he had to face the consequences of his ghastly mistake

THEODORE S. HECHT, Editor

GREG JACKSON, Associate Editor

PERCY BETTS, Assistant Editor

MATTHEW P. FLOUREY, Cir. Dir.

FRANCIS NEWSOM, Art Director

KATHY JAMES, Asst. Art Director

JOHN PARKER, Art Associate

ORIA FAY WILLIAMS, Art Associate

SHOCK, Volume 2, Number 6, January 1971, is published bi-monthly by STANLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC., 261 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016. Application to mail at second-class postal rates will be made at the Post Offices at New York, N.Y., and additional mailing offices. Price 50¢ per copy; subscription rate \$3.00 per year. All material submitted at sender's risk. Publisher cannot be responsible for loss or non-return of any material, which will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope bearing the correct postage. Any resemblance to any person living or dead, is purely coincidental. Copyright 1970 by STANLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC. Advertising representative, LEONARD GREENE ASSOCIATES, 180 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016. Printed in the U.S.A.



The BAT and the BRAIN

ONE WAS A CREATURE THAT FLUTTERED AND CIRCLED IN THE SHADOWS OF A QUIET LABORATORY-- THE OTHER WAS A MIND THAT FLAPPED THROUGH THE DARK BYWAYS OF ETERNAL MIDNIGHT! TOGETHER, THEY FORMED THE BAT AND THE BRAIN-- HIDEOUSLY FUSED BY THE WILL OF A VAMPIRE!



BARBARA! I WAS ON THE VERGE OF PHONING YOU-- BECAUSE I'VE JUST ABOUT WOUND UP THE FIRST PHASE OF MY PROJECT!

DARLING-- YOU LOOK TIRED! WHATEVER YOU'VE BEEN WORKING ON.. IT'S BEEN A TERRIBLE STRAIN!

ALL I'VE NOTICED IS AN OCCASIONAL HEADACHE-- PROBABLY BROUGHT ON BY THE EXCITEMENT OF MY DISCOVERY! YOU SEE, I'VE HAD SOME AMAZING EXPERIENCES WITH A-- WELL, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD CALL IT AN ANIMAL!

HEAVENS, DON-- YOU MAKE IT SOUND WONDERFULLY MYSTERIOUS! WHAT IS THIS THING?

YOU'LL SEE-- AS SOON AS I'VE CONCENTRATED A FEW SECONDS! THERE'S SOMETHING IN THAT BOX-- AND I'M GOING TO BRING IT OUT!

THEN.. TWITCHING AND RUSTLING ON THE SHADOWED RIM--

WATCH,
BARBARA--
HERE IT
COMES!

OHH! IT'S A HORRID LITTLE BAT!

NOW IT'S GOING TO FLY-- RIGHT OVER OUR HEADS!

NO-- DON'T! THAT THING HORRIFIES ME-- STOP IT!

LOOK! IT TURNED ABRUPTLY-- RIGHT BACK TO THE BOX!

SURE-- ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU WANTED? YOU TOLD ME TO STOP IT-- AND I DID!

DON-- THIS IS INCREDIBLE! YOU COULDN'T HAVE SPENT A WHOLE MONTH-- JUST TRAINING THAT MONSTROUS LITTLE CREATURE!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, BARBARA! I CREATED THAT BAT!

WHAT? Y--YOU MEAN IT ISN'T REAL?

WELL, TO BE MORE ACCURATE.. IT'S NOT ALIVE! IT'S MERELY A MECHANICAL DEVICE-- A TINY ROBOT ENTIRELY CONTROLLED BY MY THOUGHT WAVES!



THOUGHT WAVES GENERATE FAINT ELECTRICAL IMPULSES THAT ARE PICKED UP BY SENSITIVE REACTOR CELLS IN THE BAT'S MECHANISM! THERE, THE IMPULSES ARE TRANSFORMED INTO ENERGY-- GIVING THE BAT MOTION! THAT'S WHY, WHEN MY BRAIN CONCENTRATES ON THE REACTOR CELLS, THE BAT BECOMES ALMOST A LIVING THING -- AND ITS FLUTTERING TAKES ON A FANTASTIC REALISM!

FANTASTIC ISN'T THE WORD FOR IT! IF YOU HAD TO TEST YOUR REACTOR CELLS ON AN ARTIFICIAL ANIMAL-- WHAT EVER MADE YOU CHOOSE A BAT?

I KNEW YOU'D ASK THAT! TO BEGIN WITH -- LIVING ORGANISMS EITHER SWIM, WALK, CRAWL-- OR FLY!



OF THESE MOVEMENTS.. FLYING IS THE ONE MOST AFFECTIONATED BY THINGS LIKE WIND CURRENTS AND ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE! ACCORDINGLY, A DECISIVE TEST REQUIRED A FLYING MECHANISM-- AND IT SO HAPPENS THAT THE ANATOMY OF A BAT IS PERFECTLY SUITED TO THE REACTOR CELL MECHANISM!

IT'S REALLY AN AMAZING DISCOVERY, DON-- BUT DON'T YOU THINK IT CAN BE CARRIED TOO FAR? WHEN THE BAT'S IN MOTION, YOU GET PALE AND TENSE-- AS IF IT'S DRAINING YOUR ENERGY!

BLAME THAT ON THE HEADACHES I MENTIONED, HONEY.. NOT BRAIN WAVES USING A MERE MILLIONTH OF A VOLT! ANYWAY, I'LL WIND THINGS UP IN TWO MORE DAYS -- AND IF YOU WANT TO USE THE SPARE ROOM-- YOU CAN GIVE ME A HAND!



THE FOLLOWING NIGHT--

DON-- DO YOU HAVE TO
ACTIVATE THAT CREATURE
AGAIN? AFTER ALL--
YOU'VE ALREADY
PROVED
YOUR
THEORY!

I'M JUST MAKING
A FEW FINAL
OBSERVATIONS!
IT'S PRETTY LATE,
BARBARA-- WHY
DON'T YOU GO
UPSTAIRS?

A MOMENT LATER-- WATCHING THE THING WHEEL
AND FLIT IN THE SHADOWED SOLITUDE--

I KEEP WONDERING IF THESE
RECENT HEADACHES AREN'T DUE
TO MENTAL STRAIN! COULD
BE I'M MISTAKEN--
BUT I SEEM TO HAVE
MORE AND MORE
DIFFICULTY MAKING
THE BAT RESPOND
TO MY THOUGHT
WAVES!

GO BACK TO THE TABLE!
GO BACK-- AND REMAIN
MOTIONLESS!



AS A MOMENTARY TREMOR RIPPLES THE GLOSSY
WINGS--

STRANGE THAT IT SHOULD MOVE EVEN
SLIGHTLY-- WHEN I'M NO LONGER GIVING OUT
THOUGHT IMPULSES! BUT IT WOULD BE ABSURD
TO THINK THAT THE CREATURE'S DEVELOPING SOME
SORT OF INDEPENDENCE OF ACTION! THERE MUST
BE SOME OTHER REASON-- SOMETHING THAT CAN BE EXPLAINED
SCIENTIFICALLY!

SOON
AFTER-
WARD--

DON DOESN'T KNOW I WATCHED
HIM PEERING AT THE BAT--
AFTER IT ALIGHTED ON THE
TABLE! MY OWN DREAD IS
BAD ENOUGH-- BUT WHEN I
SEE HIM BEGINNING TO
DOUBT-- I CAN'T BEAR
THE THOUGHT OF GOING
TO BED!



SUDDENLY-- AS THE DRIFTING MIST GATHERS
INTO A SHAPE OF HORROR--

GOOD HEAVENS--
WHAT IS IT?



THOSE HIDEOUS WINGS ARE JUST LIKE THE BAT'S! BUT IT... IT'S THE GHOST OF A THING THAT DIED!

YES-- BEFORE, MY PHANTOM MIND COULD ONLY SEEK OUT VICTIMS! BUT NOW IT WILL BE DIFFERENT-- NOW I HAVE FOUND A WAY TO PREY ON THEM!

THEN--

DON! FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE-- HELP!

YE GODS-- BARBARA SOUNDS SCARED WITHIN AN INCH OF HER LIFE!



LET'S CALM DOWN! YOU MUST HAVE DOZED OFF-- AND YOUR UNCONSCIOUS FEAR OF THE ARTIFICIAL BAT WAS EXPRESSED IN A NIGHTMARE!

I TELL YOU I SAW THE THING AND HEARD IT! I'M NOT GOING CRAZY!



I SENSED YESTERDAY THAT YOU'D GONE TOO FAR. SURE OF IT! BARBARA, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING THAT'LL CONVince YOU! I WANT YOU TO EXAMINE THE BAT CLOSELY-- SATISFYING YOURSELF THAT IT'S NOTHING BUT A MECHANICAL GADGET-- INCAPABLE OF DOING ANYTHING UNLESS IT'S DIRECTED BY A BRAIN!

LISTEN! DO YOU HEAR THAT FAINT SOUND INSIDE-- LIKE FLAPPING?

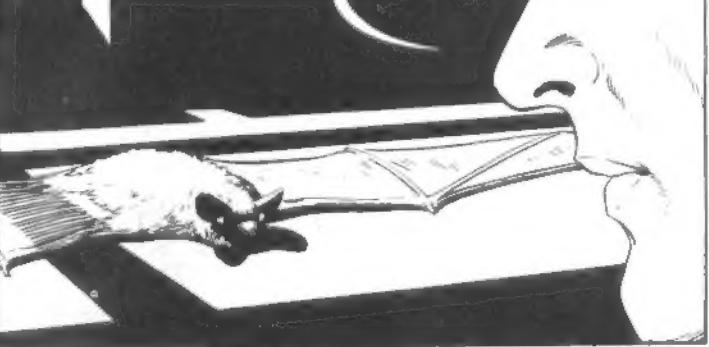
SURE! IT MIGHT BE A TWIG BRUSHING THE WINDOW-- OR PAPERS ON MY DESK RUSTLED BY THE BREEZE-- BUT IT CAN'T BE WHAT YOU THINK IT IS!





GOOD LORD.. PERHAPS THAT EXPLAINS THE FATIGUE I FEEL AFTER EXPERIMENTING WITH THE BAT-- THE SENSATION THAT SOMETHING'S RUNNING COUNTER TO MY THOUGHTS! IS THERE A FORCE AT WORK HERE THAT I HAVEN'T RECKONED WITH-- ANOTHER BRAIN?

NO, THAT CAN'T BE TRUE-- BECAUSE THE BAT DOESN'T SHOW A SINGLE SIGN OF LIFE! I'LL ADMIT THAT THE EYES HAVE AN AMAZINGLY REALISTIC GLEAM-- BUT THAT'S JUST A DETAIL I HADN'T NOTICED BEFORE!



THEN-- SLASHING THE SILENCE LIKE SPLINTERED GLASS--

BARBARA! SOMETHING'S WRONG-- IN THE LIVING ROOM!



TWO FORMS DART TOWARD THE LABORATORY DOOR-- ONE A MAN SHAKEN TO HIS SOUL-- AND THE OTHER--

YE GODS-- THE BAT! SOMETHING'S CONTROLLING IT-- GUIDING IT TO WHERE SHE IS!



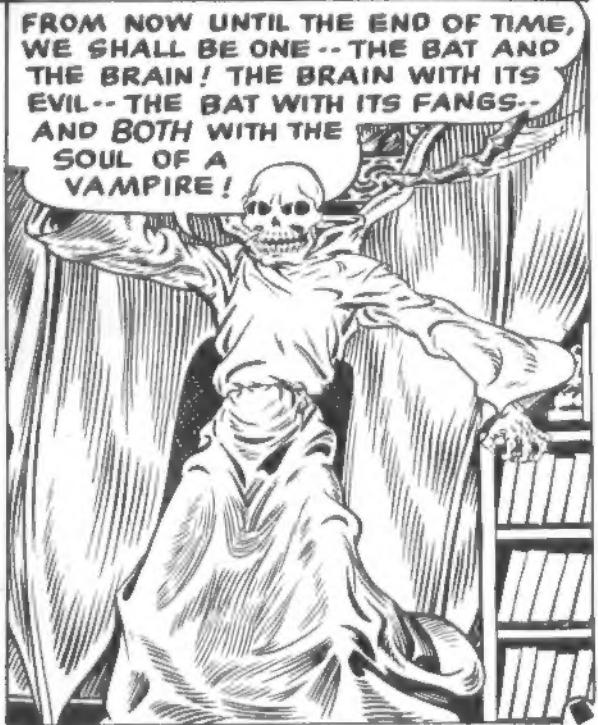
IN THE FIRST FRANTIC INSTANT, THE SHADOWED ROOM HOLDS NOTHING BUT A WHITE-FACED GIRL-- AND THE SKITTERING BEAT OF SMALL BLACK WINGS--

BARBARA-- WHERE IS IT?

THERE-- THERE! GOOD HEAVENS, CAN'T YOU SEE IT-- AGAINST THE WALL?



FROM NOW UNTIL THE END OF TIME, WE SHALL BE ONE-- THE BAT AND THE BRAIN! THE BRAIN WITH ITS EVIL-- THE BAT WITH ITS FANGS-- AND BOTH WITH THE SOUL OF A VAMPIRE!



IN THE NEXT INSTANT--

PREY IS WHAT WE WILL SEEK HENCEFORTH-- THE BAT SUSTAINING ITSELF WITH BLOOD-- THE BRAIN FEASTING ON THE VICTIM'S TERROR!

DON-- THAT HORRIBLE THING-- IT'S FLAPPING TOWARD ME!



SUDDENLY--

ARGHHHHHHH!



TWO PAIRS OF WINGS BEAT WILDLY AGAINST THE WALL-- ONE OF THEM SILENT AND DIMMING --THE OTHER WHIRRING IN A WEIRD METALLIC SPASM!

YOU WON'T HAVE TO WATCH THIS MUCH LONGER, BARBARA --THE VAMPIRE'S STARTING TO DISAPPEAR-- AND THE BAT NO LONGER HAS ANY CONTROL!



THEN-- AS THE WRITHING FIGURE FADES OFF--



THE BAT'S COMPLETELY SMASHED-- BUT EVEN NOW I DREAD LOOKING AT IT!

THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF! WITH THE BRAIN DESTROYED, THE BAT BECAME A MERE INANIMATE MACHINE-- AND THERE'S WHAT IS LEFT!

DON, NOW THAT IT'S OVER-- MAYBE IT'S BEST TO FORGET ABOUT YOUR RE-ACTOR CELLS -- AND TRY TO REMEMBER THE PHANTOM BRAIN AS A HORRIFYING ILLUSION!

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, HONEY-- BUT IT'D BE A LOT EASIER IF I HADN'T DESTROYED THAT THING THE WAY A VAMPIRE SHOULD BE DESTROYED-- WITH A SILVER BLADE!



The WEREFIENDS of FINLAND



BECAUSE OUR KNOWLEDGE IS ONLY A SMALL ISLAND IN A SEA OF BLACK IGNORANCE! IN SHORT WE ARE STILL ONLY GROPING FOR ANSWERS TO THE ETERNAL MYSTERIES!

BUT, YOU CAN'T MEAN THAT! NOT YOU ---THE GREAT DR KOLJAS!



BUT I DO---**EVERY WORD OF IT!** I CAN ALSO PROVE WHAT I SAY, IF YOU CAN WITHSTAND THE SHOCK!

MY PURPOSE IN COMING TO FINLAND WAS TO WORK WITH YOU, DOCTOR! IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SHOW ME, I **WANT** TO SEE IT NO MATTER WHAT!



[A] SHORT WHILE LATER . . .

WHAT IS THIS PLACE DOCTOR? IT CAN'T BE PART OF THE HOSPITAL!

NO, NOT ANYMORE! TWO CENTURIES AGO THIS TOWER HOUSED EXTREME MENTAL CASES! ITS USE AT THIS MOMENT IS FOR---ER EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH!

JUST ONE QUESTION, MARK---DO YOU BELIEVE IN **TRANSMUTATION**, ---THE CHANGING FROM ONE ANIMAL FORM INTO ANOTHER?

THAT'S SUPERSTITIOUS ROT, DOCTOR! OF COURSE, I DON T!



GOOD LORD! IT'S A BEAST---IN HUMAN FORM!



STEADY MARK! IN A FEW MOMENTS IT'LL EXHAUST ITSELF INTO A STATE OF UNCONSCIOUSNESS! THEN WE'LL GO IN AND YOU CAN EXAMINE IT FOR YOURSELF---AN ACTUAL SPECimen OF OUR ANCIENT FINNISH WERE-FIENDS!

B BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THEY'RE JUST LEGENDS!











MOMENTS LATER---A GHASTLY SPECTACLE!



THIS TUNNEL MUST LEAD TO ANOTHER CHAMBER! EASY, BOY...EASY!



WHEN...

IT'S KRISTIN! THOSE DEMONS MUST BE ABOUT READY TO STRIKE! I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING...AND FAST!



YOUR FATE IS ORDAINED, WOMAN! FIRST YOU MUST DIE, THEN YOUR FATHER! DEATH TO ALL WHO OPPOSE MY RULE!

N-NO! D-DON'T TOUCH ME!



SUDDENLY, WITH THE LIGHTNING LEAP OF CANINE FURY UNLEASHED...

WAIT, BOY! COME BACK!



UNMINDFUL OF HIS OWN DANGER, THE FAITHFUL DOG SPRANG TO HIS MISTRESS' AID...

GROW-RRR!



SECONDS LATER...

HURRY, KRISTIN! BACK THROUGH THE PASSAGEWAY! IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!



WAIT, MARK---WE CAN'T
LEAVE MY DOG BEHIND!
THEY'LL KILL HIM!

IT CAN'T BE HELPED
KRISTIN! THEY'LL BE
AFTER US IN A
MINUTE!

AFTER THEM! THEY MUSTN'T
ESCAPE! LET THEM KNOW THE
UNTOLD HORROR OF OUR FANGS!
FORWARD, COHORTS
STRIKE!



OUTSIDE---WORKING WITH FEVERISH
HASTE---

W---WHAT ARE YOU DOING
MARK? WHY ARE YOU STOPPING
TO SET FIRE
TO YOUR COAT
WHEN THEY'LL
BE HERE ANY
SECOND!

IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE, KRISTIN!
---WE COULD NEVER ESCAPE
THEM ON FOOT! I'M PLAYING
A LONG SHOT,
HONEY---

...SO IT'S
GOT TO
WORK!



SECONDS LATER, A DEVASTATING
EXPLOSION ROCKED THE SUBTER
RANEAN VAULT---



AND WHEN THE FINAL REVERBERATIONS DIED AWAY...

T-THAT EXPLOSION
MARK - WHAT
HAPPENED?

F VOJ REMEMBER, THE
TUNNEL WAS FILLED WITH
A HEAVY GAS! I FIGURED
IT CAME FROM THE DECAY-
ING BODIES OF FORMER
VICTIMS, AND BEING ORGANIC
IT WOULD BE COMBUSTI-
BLE! THE FLAMING COAT
WAS ENOUGH TO SET
IT OFF!

THEN THOSE
MONSTERS WERE
ACTUALLY DESTROYED
BY THEIR OWN
VICTIMS!

THAT'S RIGHT! BUT THEIR DESTRUCT-
ION MARKS OUR BEGINNING! LET'S
TELL YOUR FATHER THE GOOD
NEWS DARLING---ABOUT THEM
AND US!



THE END!

WARNING TO THE READER!
Once in a while we come across a story so eerie
that we hesitate to publish it -- a story that
makes you say, with a shudder, "That could
happen to me!" Well, then -- unless you
know exactly who all your ancestors were, proceed
with caution as you read this tale of gasping
thrills and strange love...

The GIRL WHO DIED TWICE!

OUR STORY BEGINS IN THE PRESENT -- WITH A SCENE THAT GIVES NO HINT OF IMPENDING DISASTER --

OH, HARRY, THE RING'S BEAUTIFUL! ONLY-- IT'S SO SUDDEN! I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY!

JUST SAY YOU'LL BECOME MRS. HARRY SLADE, SWEETHEART!

BUT I--I JUST MET YOU A MONTH AGO! EVEN THOUGH I'VE SEEN YOU EVERY DAY, I DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT YOU!

THEN IT MUST BE TRUE LOVE, DEAREST! AFTER ALL, I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT YOU, EITHER!

ALL RIGHT, I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING ABOUT MY FAMILY TREE-- THEN THERE WON'T BE ANY DOUBT IN YOUR MIND! SEE YOU LATER, DARLING!

HEY, FORGET IT! I KNOW EVERYTHING I WANT TO ABOUT YOU!

Later...

HOPE THIS IS THE RIGHT PLACE...

D. BOWER
GENEALOGIST

AND THUS, WHAT STARTED AS A CASUAL JOKE, BECAME A DEADLY SERIOUS AFFAIR IN JESSIE'S MIND -- AND THE STAGE WAS SET FOR-- HORROR!

... AND YOU SAY YOU THAT'S MY JOB, CAN TRACE MY ANCESTORS -- FIRST, LET ME WAY BACK? ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS...

ONE WEEK LATER .. RETURNING TO THE OFFICE OF DAN BOWER -- JESSIE LEARNED SHOCKING NEWS!

WELL, MISS DAWES -- YOUR FAMILY BACKGROUND IS A GOOD ONE--AND YET-- THERE ARE A FEW--ER-- STRANGE THINGS I CAN'T EXPLAIN!

STRANGE?
WHY--WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

IN THE PAST THREE HUNDRED YEARS, THERE HAVE BEEN TWO OTHER JESSIES IN THE DAWES FAMILY-- BUT I CAN FIND ONLY THEIR DEATH RECORDS!

THERE ARE NO BIRTH RECORDS!

-- FURTHERMORE, EACH JESSIE DAWES DIED VIOLENTLY -- IN SHORT, THEY WERE MURDERED!

THAT'S INCREDIBLE! I DON'T KNOW, WH--WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

MISS DAWES!
IT MAY BE JUST COINCIDENCE!
I'LL HAVE TO STUDY IT FURTHER!

OVER HEART BEATING STRANGELY, JESSIE HURRIED TO MEET HARRY SLADE --

THOSE UNUSUAL FINDINGS OF DAN BOWERS -- THEY DISTURB ME -- AND SO DOES HE! GOLLY, MAYBE I'VE BEEN TOO HASTY-- MAYBE I DON'T CARE FOR HARRY AS MUCH AS I'D THOUGHT!

HMM, THAT'S FUNNY--HARRY TOLD ME TO MEET HIM HERE BUT THE PLACE IS DESERTED EXCEPT FOR THIS CAT! HERE, KITTY--NICE KITTY!

SUDDENLY, WITH A DEMONIAC SNARL, THE CAT LEAPED!

OH!
HELP!

AS JESSIE FELL BACKWARD --

THAT BENCH--IT'S BEEN CRUSHED BY A HUGE BOULDER! -- AND I WAS JUST ABOUT TO SIT DOWN ON IT!



CONFUSED AND SHAKEN BY HER ORDEAL, JESSIE NEGLECTED TO TELL HARRY THE STRANGE STORY OF HER ANCESTRY! ONCE AT HOME, SHE RETIRED -- BUT REST ELUDED HER FRAYED NERVES!



AS UNEASY TOSSING MERGED INTO FITFUL SLEEP, A NIGHTMARE TOOK ON DREADFUL SHAPE --

OHHHH, NO!
PLEASE--
LEAVE ME
ALONE!
PLEASE!



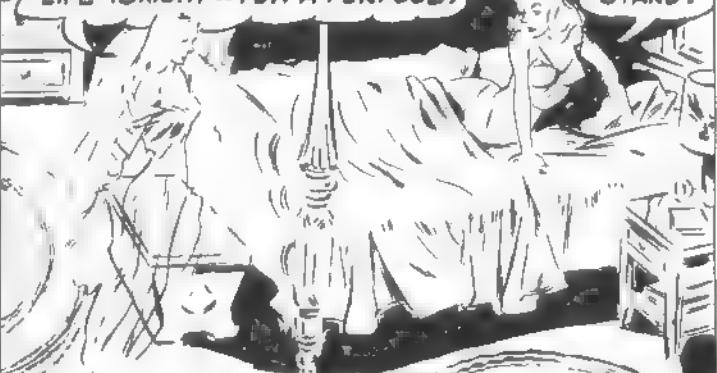
TERRIFIED, JESSIE AWOKE -- TO BEHOLD THE BAILEFULLY GLOWING EYES OF --



EVEN AS SHE STARED AND TREMBLED IN DISBELIEF, THE FORM OF THE GREAT CAT SUDDENLY UNDERWENT AN INCREDIBLE TRANSFORMATION--AND THEN--STANDING THERE AT THE FOOT OF HER BED, SHE SAW -- HERSELF!

YES, I AM JESSIE DAWES-- BUT WHY--WHY?
THE FIRST JESSIE DAWES! IT WAS I, AS A CAT, WHO SAVED YOUR LIFE TONIGHT -- FOR A PURPOSE!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND!





"SO IT WAS--AND HERE AM I,
FOLKORN GHOST, DOOMED TO
ETERNAL WANDERING--"

FOR I HAVE VOWED
REVENGE--AND EACH CENTURY
I RETURN AS A REINCARNATED
JESSIE DAWES! -- BUT, TWICE,
THE CLEVER FIEND HAS
OUTWITTED ME--
MURDERED ME!

AND NOW, THIS TIME,
I MUST WIN--OR ROAM THE
TWILIGHT WORLD
FOREVER!

IS...IS THERE
ANY WAY
I CAN
HELP YOU?

NO.. BECAUSE
THE ARCH-VILLAIN
IS FIERCELY
CLEVER! YOU
ARE TO BE HIS
NEXT
VICTIM!

AN ICY SHIVER OF FEAR CREEP ALONG JESSIE'S
SPINE AS A DREAD QUESTION FORMED IN HER
BRAIN:

THE ARCH-VILLAIN?
WH-WHO DO YOU MEAN?--
WHO IS THIS
MONSTER?

YOUR
SWEETHEART--
HARRY
SLADE!

IT WAS SLADE WHO TRIED
TO KILL YOU WITH THAT
ROCK TONIGHT! AND IT
IS SLADE WHO WILL
NOT FAIL,
NEXT TIME!

I--I CAN'T BELIEVE
IT! I WON'T!

NEXT DAY, IN AN AGONY OF
DOUBT, JESSIE SOUGHT THE
AID OF THE ONE PERSON WHO
COULD HELP HER...

... AND THAT'S
THE WHOLE STORY, SLADE,
MR. BOWER!
OH, WHAT CAN
I DO?
I'LL CHECK ON
SLADE
FIRST!
MEANWHILE,
GET SOME REST
--JESSIE!

THE
GIRL'S
OBVIOUSLY
OUT OF
HER MIND!

A DAY OF FEVERISH RESEARCH
PRODUCED AWFUL
EVIDENCE!

ACCORDING TO THE RECORDS,
HARRY SLADE WAS NEVER
BORN! HE APPEARED OUT OF
NOWHERE JUST BEFORE YOU
MET HIM! IT
MUST BE A
COINCIDENCE,
OF COURSE!

NO -- IT'S
ALL TRUE!
I'M
DOOMED!

NONSENSE! WE'RE GOING TO
BEAT THIS THING--TOGETHER!
FIRST, TAKE ME TO SEE
THIS "GHOST"
OF YOURS!

BUT CAN HUMAN CLEVERNESS
DEFEAT THE ALL POWERFUL
INTELLIGENCE OF THE SUPER-
NATURAL? IN ALL OF HISTORY,
IT HAS BEEN DONE BUT RARELY--
AND THEN ONLY BY THOSE POSSESSED
BY SUPREME COURAGE!





GRUELLY TOYING WITH HIS VICTIMS,
SATAN'S DISCIPLE VOLUNTEERED
TO REPLACE THE FUSE--WHILE
THE TWO MORTALS WAITED
IN TERROR!



INSTANTLY, THE SILENT CAT RESUMED HER GHOSTLY SHAPE! AND THEN--A MESSAGE OF HOPE!

SH! -- SLADE FORGOT THAT CATS CAN SEE IN THE DARK! NOW--QUICKLY--DO AS I TELL YOU!

YES. ANYTHING--BUT IT'D BETTER WORK!



WITH FEVERISH HASTE, DAN AND JESSIE FOLLOWED THE GHOST'S WHISPERED INSTRUCTIONS! THEN, AS SLADE RETURNED--



THE FIEND, UNSUSPECTING, LIFTED THE CUP TO HIS LIPS! SUDDENLY, AS IF SEARING FLAMES WERE RACING THROUGH HIS EVIL VEINS--



AND IN THE NEXT INSTANT, HARRY SLADE HAD VANISHED INTO THE FOUL DEPTHS WHENCE HE HAD COME!

BY GEORGE! POURING THE POISONED CREAM INTO HIS CUP WORKED!



DAN -- THE CAT-- WHERE IS SHE?



AND THUS DID THE FORCES OF GOOD SPAN THE CENTURIES TO DEFEAT EVIL--AS THEY WILL ALWAYS, TO THE END OF TIME!

The End

The HAUNT of HYENA

IT WAS JUST A DEAD ANIMAL... A MUSTY TROPHY HIDDEN IN THE GLOOM OF A MYSTERIOUS MANOR! BUT ITS EYES HELD A GLEAM THAT HINTED OF MIDNIGHTS BRIMMING WITH TERROR... WHEN CREATURES THAT WERE NEITHER MAN NOR BEAST SCUTTED THROUGH
The HAUNT of the HYENA!



IT'S WONDERFUL TO LEARN YOU'VE INHERITED A HOUSE, BRUCE. BUT I CERTAINLY WISH THE SURROUNDINGS WEREN'T SO GLOOMY!

YEP... AND ONLY YESTERDAY YOU WERE WONDERING WHERE WE'D LIVE AFTER WE GET MARRIED! I THINK IT'S PURE LUCK THAT A COUNTRY LAWYER HAPPENED TO SEARCH THROUGH SOME OLD DEEDS... AND FOUND I'M THE ONLY DESCENDANT OF JOHN ANDREWS!



AND WHAT ELSE DID THE LAWYER FIND? YOU HAVEN'T MENTIONED IT, BRUCE... BUT I GOT A GLIMPSE OF HIS LETTER! JOHN ANDREWS MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED NEARLY A HUNDRED YEARS AGO...

AND NO ONE'S GONE NEAR THE MANOR SINCE!

THAT OLD WOMAN LOOKS AS THOUGH SHE'S LIVED AROUND HERE FOR YEARS NORMALLY! SHE SHOULD KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THE OLD HOUSE!



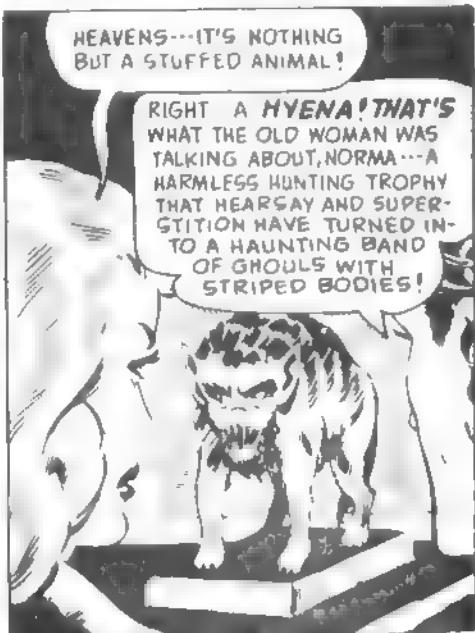
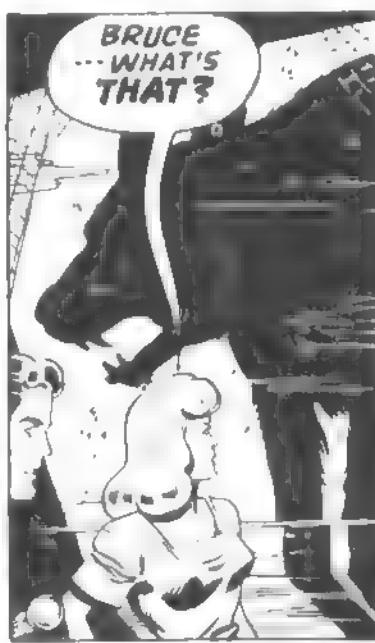
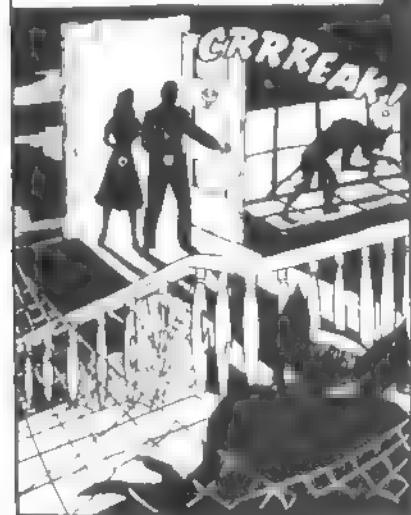
YOU'RE GOING UP TO THE MANOR, EH? NOW THERE'LL BE LIGHTS IN THE WINDOWS AND FLOWERS IN THE GARDEN - BUT IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD. IT WON'T GET RID OF THEM!

THEM?...I THOUGHT THE PLACE WAS EMPTY! HAVE YOU SEEN ANYONE UP THERE?

WAIT YOU'LL SEE 'EM! STRIPED THINGS WITH STARING EYES-- AND BRISTLING HAIR ON THEIR HIDEOUS HEADS!



SLOWLY THE DOOR GRATES OPEN AND FOR AN INSTANT THE CLAMMY DARKNESS SEEMS TO REcede IN A SWIRL OF VAGUE LOOMING SHAPES!



RIGHT A HYENA! THAT'S WHAT THE OLD WOMAN WAS TALKING ABOUT, NORMA--A HARMLESS HUNTING TROPHY THAT HEARSAY AND SUPERSTITION HAVE TURNED INTO A HAUNTING BAND OF GHOUls WITH STRIPED BODIES!

BRUCE, MAYBE IT WILL BE ALL
RIGHT TO LIVE IN ANDREWS MANOR
AFTER WE'RE MARRIED...
BUT FOR GOODNESS
SAKE, LET'S GET
RID OF THAT!

OKAY... WELL
CART IT AROUND
TO RYAN'S CURIO
SHOP! THAT PLACE
SELLS JUST ABOUT
ANYTHING... MAY-
BE THEY CAN GET RID
OF IT FOR US!

SEVERAL HOURS LATER...

LOOK, RYAN... I'M
NOT ASKING YOU
TO BUY THIS HYENA
... SO WHY BE
CHOOSY?

YOU KNOW
WHAT A HYENA
EATS. DON'T
YOU? SURE,
IT'S DEAD...
BUT I DON'T LIKE
THE IDEA OF HAVING
AN ANIMAL AROUND
THAT MAYBE PAWED
OPEN A FEW GRAVES
BACK IN AFRICA! BUT
I'LL DO YOU A FAVOR
BRUCE... YOU CAN
LEAVE IT HERE!

THAT NIGHT... AT BRUCE'S APART-
MENT...

NORMA... YOU'RE JUMPY
AS A STEEPLECHASE! YOU
STILL GOT THAT HYENA ON
YOUR MIND... OR WHAT?

BELIEVE IT OR
NOT... I'M SURE
I SAW SOMETHING
PROWL TOWARD
THE WINDOW... A
HUNKED FIGURE
WITH A STRANGE WHITE
FACE!

BRUCE... I HEARD
IT! IT SPOKE...
IT SPOKE!

FOR THE LOVE OF PETE,
RYAN... PULL YOURSELF
TOGETHER! WHAT
SPOKE?

'MIDNIGHT IS
COMING,' IT SAID!
'MIDNIGHT IS
COMING'...
JUST LIKE THAT!

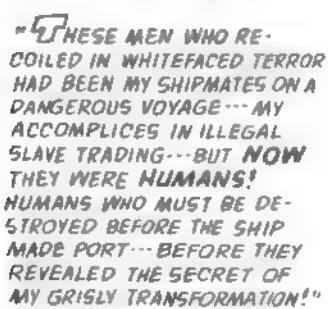
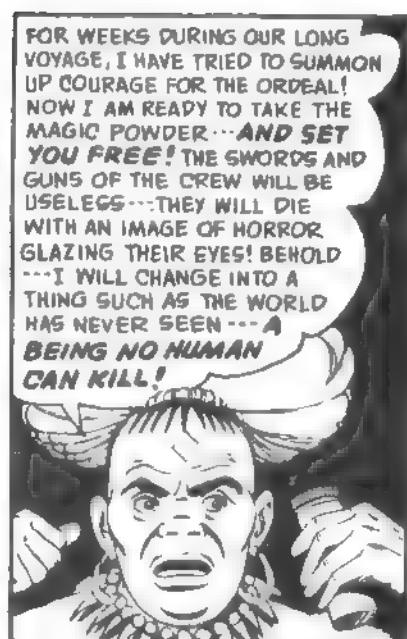
HE'S TOO CRAZED WITH
FEAR TO GIVE A LUCID
EXPLANATION, BRUCE...
BUT I KNOW WHAT
SPOKE! THE HYENA!

WHATEVER IT WAS...
MIDNIGHT'S JUST TWENTY
MINUTES OFF! LET'S GO
TO THE SHOP... AND
SETTLE THIS ONCE
AND FOR ALL!

SOON AFTERWARD... I
DON'T WANT TO SOUND
CHILDISH, DARLING... BUT
SUPPOSE WE FIND OURSELVES
UP AGAINST SOMETHING UNEXPECT-
ED... SOMETHING HIDEOUS?

THEN MAYBE WE'LL GET THE
ANSWER TO A LOT OF THINGS...
INCLUDING THE DISAPPEAR-
ANCE OF JOHN ANDREWS!
BUT I STILL THINK THE
WHOLE THINGS STRICTLY
FROM NERVES... SO TAKE
A SEAT AND TRY TO KEEP
A GRIP ON
YOURS!





THOSE POOR DEVILS HAD ONE THING TO BE THANKFUL FOR! THEY DIED - BUT AT LEAST YOU COULDN'T CLAIM THEIR **BODIES**!

I'VE HAD NO LACK OF VICTIMS! YOU AND THE GIRL WILL KNOW THAT AFTER I'VE KILLED YOU ... AND YOUR BODIES FUSE WITH MINE TOMORROW MIDNIGHT!

COME ON, NORMA...LET'S GET OUT OF HERE...FAST!



LET THEM TRY TO ESCAPE! THAT WILL GIVE THEM **ANOTHER** PROOF OF MY POWERS---WHEN MY DEMONS TRACK THEM DOWN, NO MATTER HOW FAR THEY GO!



BRUCE IT'S HOPELESS TIME AND DISTANCE MEAN NOTHING TO A FIEND LIKE THAT!



4 HOURS LATER IN A HALL MANTLED BY THE GREY PALL OF DAWN

WE SHOULD HAVE DESTROYED THIS PLACE THE FIRST TIME, BRUCE! NOW I'VE GOT A FEELING WE'RE TOO LATE --- THAT WE SHOULDN'T HAVE COME IN!



Then --- THE DOORWAY FRAMES THE SHAPE OF HORROR!

STRIPED THINGS...WITH STARING EYES! GOOD HEAVENS --- WHY DIDN'T I REMEMBER?



YOU CAN MAKE IT, NORMA! GET OUT ---FAST!

HAA HA HA!





WITH THE HOURS PASSING LIKE THE UNHEARD FOOTSTEPS OF DOOM...

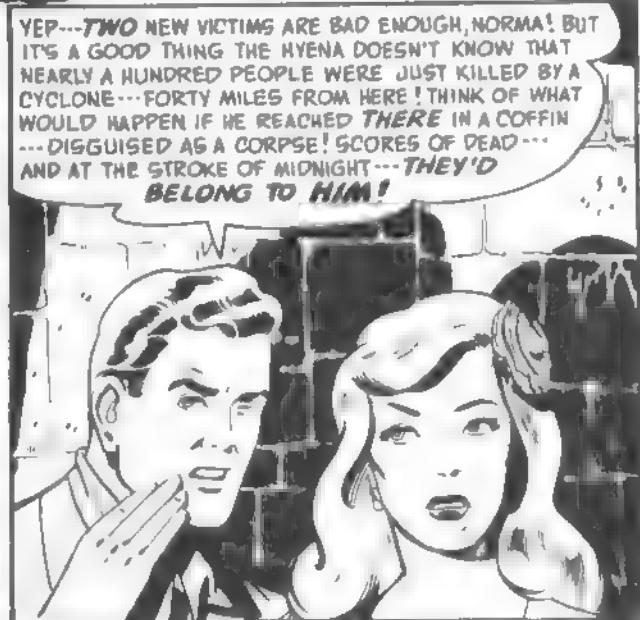


ONLY THE BLACK MAGIC OF THE AFRICAN JUNGLES COULD SPAWN THINGS LIKE THEM! THE POWDER I TOOK WAS MADE FROM THE CHARRED BONES OF THE ARCH-FIEND WHO ONCE CONTROLLED THEM--AND NOW MINE IS THE WILL THEY OBEY!



TAKE MY ADVICE, FREAK---AND KILL US NOW---BECAUSE I'M NOT GOING TO BE CONTENT WITH ESCAPING! AS LONG AS I'M ALIVE---I'LL BE REACHING FOR A WAY TO END YOUR SLIMY CAREER!

AHA, NO---YOU CAN'T TAUNT ME INTO TAKING YOUR LIVES YET! WAIT UNTIL MID-NIGHT---WHEN YOUR LIFELESS BODIES BECOME PART OF MINE!



YEP---TWO NEW VICTIMS ARE BAD ENOUGH, NORMA! BUT IT'S A GOOD THING THE HYENA DOESN'T KNOW THAT NEARLY A HUNDRED PEOPLE WERE JUST KILLED BY A CYCLONE---FORTY MILES FROM HERE! THINK OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF HE REACHED THERE IN A COFFIN ---DISGUISED AS A CORPSE! SCORES OF DEAD---

BELONG TO HIM!



GOOD LORD---THE HYENA! HE'S LISTENED, NORMA. HE'S LEARNED ABOUT THOSE CYCLONE VICTIMS!

TWO VICTIMS CAN WAIT... WHEN A HUNDRED

ARE READY TO BE CLAIMED! YOU WILL

DRIVE ME THERE---AND

REMEMBER THAT MY FIENDS

CAN BE SUMMONED IN A

SECOND! AT THE FIRST SIGN

OF A TRICK---YOU'LL

KNOW THE KIND OF

AGONY THAT WOULD

MAKE DEATH A BOON!

MILES BEYOND

NOW WE'LL SEE IF THE GAMBLE PAYS OFF, NORMA!
THERE'S JUST A MINUTE TO SPARE BEFORE MIDNIGHT.
AND WE'VE REACHED A SPOT THE
HYENA OUGHT TO
RECOGNIZE!

THE PLACE WHERE
I SANK THE SHIP
MAGNOLIA
SWAMP!

AS THE FIENDS BRISTLE FORTH IN THE DARKNESS

OKAY CREEP--WHAT NOW? YOU'VE BOASTED
THAT THE DEAD RISE AT MIDNIGHT WHEN YOU'RE
AROUND--BUT CAN YOU FACE THEM--THE CREW
YOU MURDERED?

FOOL--IS THAT WHAT YOU
HOPED FOR? YES, **BODIES** RISE
AT MIDNIGHT--BUT WHERE ARE **THEIR**
BODIES--AFTER OVER A CENTURY
IN THAT BOTTOMLESS BLACK
OOZE? ASK YOURSELF THAT
---WHILE THE FIENDS
TEAR YOU
APART!

Then--AT THE INSTANT OF TWELVE--

WHAT'S THAT GLOW?
THE SWAMP IS HEAVING
---THERE'S SOMETHING
IN THAT MIRE THAT'S
ALIVE!

UP FROM THE CHURNING BLACKNESS--TOWERING
HIGHER AND HIGHER

WHAT ABOUT IT
HYENA--THINK
YOU CAN CLAIM
THAT?

TREMENDOUS ARM REACHES DOWN--AND WITH A
SINGLE AVENGING SWEEP--

CRRASH!

ARRAGH!

AS THE DRIPPING HULK SINKS BACK INTO THE YIELDING
DEPTHES--

LOOK, BRUCE! THE PHANTOM'S
GOING DOWN WITH IT--BACK TO
OBLIVION--LIKE A THING
THAT CAME INTO BEING
FOR JUST A SINGLE
PURPOSE!

THAT'S SOMETHING
THE HYENA REALIZED
TOO LATE, HONEY!
THE PHANTOM RE-
PRESENTED THE SPIRITS
OF MEN WHOSE BODIES
THE HYENA NEGLECTED
TO CLAIM--SP.RITS THAT
WAITED FOR THEIR HOUR
OF RECKONING--AT
MIDNIGHT!

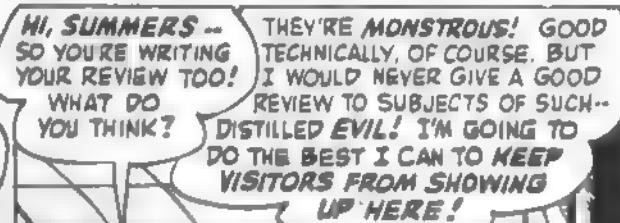
THE END

ARTIST of EVIL



HAVE YOU EVER SEEN PICTURES SO HORRIBLE THAT LOOKING AT THEM MADE YOUR HEAD SPIN AND YOUR BLOOD FREEZE -- WHILE A PARALYZING FEAR GRIPPED YOUR BODY? HERE IS A CHILLING TALE OF AN ARTIST WHO COULD ONLY PAINT EVIL -- WHOSE PAINTINGS WERE EVIL ENOUGH TO

KILL!



LATER -- I CAN'T GET THOSE PAINTINGS OUT OF MY MIND! MAYBE OWEN SUMMERS IS RIGHT-- MAYBE PEOPLE SHOULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO LOOK AT THEM!

NO! GOOD ART SHOULD BE SEEN, NO MATTER WHAT THE SUBJECT! I'LL TAKE YOU HOME -- AND THEN DROP IN ON SUMMERS AND TELL HIM WHAT I THINK!



AND SO --

OWEN!
ARE YOU HOME?



WITHIN -- A SCENE OF UNFORGETTABLE HORROR!

HUH?
MERCIFUL HEAVENS!

The Natas Exhibit, now at the 57th St. Gallery, should be avoided by everyone interested in decent art. Never hav-



NUMBED BY SHOCK AND HORROR, JIM SUMMONED THE POLICE --

I -- HAVE NO IDEA WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED! IT'S HORRIBLE -- A GOOD MAN LIKE SUMMERS --



I'LL FINISH HIS REVIEW FOR HIM -- THE WAY HE'S BEGUN IT! IT'S NOT MUCH -- BUT I FEEL I'LL BE DOING SOMETHING FOR HIM! BETTER TAKE IT HOME AND WORK ON IT!



HOURS LATER -- AS JIM FINISHED THE REVIEW CONDEMNING THE PAINTINGS OF NATAS --

IT'S TWO IN THE MORNING!
WHO COULD BE AT THE DOOR NOW?





MORNING FOUND JIM CONVINCED IT HAD BEEN A NIGHTMARE -- FOR THE THING HE HAD BATTLED WAS THE CREATURE OF THE PORTRAIT! THEN -- AN AMAZING DISCOVERY!

THIS BUTTON I FOUND ON THE FLOOR BELOW THE PICTURE -- IT'S IDENTICAL WITH THOSE ON HIS CAPE! AND THERE'S ONE MISSING -- AS IF IT WERE TORN OFF IN A STRUGGLE!

THERE WAS NOTHING TO DO BUT INVESTIGATE THAT MYSTERIOUS ARTIST -- NATAS! ACCCOMPANIED BY PEGGY--

I AM HONORED! THE FAMOUS ART CRITIC, IT--IT'S JAMES OTIS, AND THE PROMISING ART ALMOST STUDENT, PEGGY BOWDEN! AS IF HE'D BEEN EXPECTING US!



NOW, MR. OTIS, AND MISS BOWDEN, LET ME GIVE YOU AN ILLUSTRATION OF HOW A GREAT GENIUS WORKS!

THIS GUY SEEMS COMPLETELY MAD! PEGGY, WE OUGHT TO GET OUT OF HERE!



A FEW STROKES OF HIS BRUSH -- AND A COMPLETE PAINTING IS DONE!

LOOK -- AM I NOT THE GREATEST PAINTER IN THE WORLD?



AS THE HORRIBLE TRUTH DAWNS---

GREAT SCOTT! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! SHE'S STAYING, MR. OTIS--UNTIL YOU DECIDE TO CHANGE YOUR REVIEW, AND TELL THE PUBLIC I AM THE GREATEST PAINTER IN THE WORLD!



NO! AND I'LL NOT LEAVE HERE WITHOUT YOU'VE GOT TO -- THAT WE'RE BOTH IN DEADLY DANGER?



POWERLESS, JIM LEFT! IT SEEMED AN EASY MATTER TO WRITE THE WORDS THAT WOULD FREE PEGGY, BUT—

I--I CAN'T GO THROUGH WITH IT! I KEEP THINKING OF THE PEOPLE WHO'LL READ MY REVIEW, AND BE FACED WITH THE LIVING EVIL THE PAINTINGS REPRESENT!

BUT—BUT MAYBE I'M MAKING TOO MUCH OUT OF THIS—MAYBE THE PAINTINGS AREN'T AS BAD AS I THOUGHT! PERHAPS IF I RETURNED TO THE EXHIBIT, LOOKED AT THEM AGAIN---



SO--BACK AT THE EXHIBIT--

FUNNY--IT'S AFTER HOURS BUT THE DOOR WAS STILL OPEN! AND WHERE'S OLD ANDY THE WATCHMAN?



THEN--A TRAGIC DISCOVERY!

NOT A MARK ON HIM--NOTHING BUT THAT EXPRESSION OF AWFUL FEAR! NOTHING HUMAN KILLED HIM--
BUT THOSE PICTURES DID!



AROUND HIM THERE SWIRLED A LIVING EVIL--AN EVIL WHICH HAD PREYED ON THE LIVING...



MAD WITH RAGE, JIM ATTACKED THE SINISTER PAINTINGS! AND FROM THEM, STRANGE BEINGS STREAMED--AND STRUCK BACK!



IT WAS A STRANGE BATTLE - AN UNEQUAL BATTLE --



--AND FINALLY, JIM WENT DOWN -- KNOCKING OVER THE WATCHMAN'S LANTERN!



WHEN JIM REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS ...

THANK HEAVENS YOU DON'T NEED MY MINISTRATIONS -- I WAS AFRAID YOU WERE DYING!



THANKS, PADRE -- BUT MAYBE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF I HAD DIED! WHAT HAVE I GOT LEFT TO LIVE FOR NOW?



THE MENACE OF THE PAINTINGS HAD BEEN DESTROYED -- BUT WITHIN JIM LINGERED THE MEMORY OF PEGGY -- POWERLESS WITHIN SATAN'S GRASP!

SON, WE MUST NEVER GIVE UP HOPE! HERE, TAKE THIS -- WHO KNOWS IN WHAT WAY IT MAY HELP YOU?



JIM SCARCELY GAVE THE BOOK A LOOK AS HE THRUST IT INTO HIS POCKET! ALL HE KNEW WAS THAT A SUDDEN, INEXPICABLE SURGE OF COURAGE SWEPT THROUGH HIM --

I'M GOING TO BEARD THE DEVIL IN HIS LAIR AND SAVE PEGGY--EVEN IF IT COSTS ME MY LIFE!



AT THE HOME OF NATAS --

AH, YOU'VE COME FOR MISS BOWDEN? ER-- I'M AFRAID SHE MAY NOT WISH TO DEPART!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? IF-- IF YOU'VE HARMED HER--



JIM WAS PREPARED FOR ANYTHING -- BUT NOT FOR THE SIGHT THAT GREETED HIM!

PEGGY!

HE HAS -- TAUGHT ME -- HIS SECRETS! AND SEE -- WHAT I -- HAVE LEARNED TO PAINT!



YOU'VE GOT TO LISTEN TO ME, PEGGY! IT'S WRONG, HORRIBLY WRONG -- HE'S TAUGHT YOU TO PUT EVIL ON CANVAS!

NO! -- NO! HE'S -- THE GREATEST ARTIST-- THAT EVER LIVED!



IT'S NO USE -- SHE'S COMPLETELY WITHIN MY POWER! TELL ME -- HAVE YOU WRITTEN THE FAVORABLE REVIEW OF MY WORK THAT I REQUIRE?

NO -- AND I NEVER WILL! YOUR WORK LACKS ALL TRUE MERIT! IT'S LOW, EVIL-



YOU--YOU DARE SAY THAT TO ME--THE GREATEST PAINTER IN HISTORY? NO! YOU LIE, MORTAL--LIE!



AFAIR TO FACE THE TRUTH, ARENT YOU—
SATAN? I'VE GOT A WORLD REPUTATION AS
AN HONEST ART CRITIC-- AND I SAY YOUR
PAINTINGS ARE BASE AND VILE! THAT'S
BECAUSE YOU CAN ONLY SEE AND REVEAL
EVIL - BY YOUR VERY NATURE, YOU'RE
BLINDED TO TRUTH! AND EVERY
GREAT ARTIST HAS ALWAYS
BEEN ABLE TO SEE THE
GOOD IN MAN!



THE PRINCE OF EVIL REACTS — IN AWFUL RAGE!

HO, FIENDS! TO ME—AND
DOWN THIS MORTAL!
KILL HIM!



AGAINST
FEARFUL
ODDS--

LOOKS LIKE THE END OF
THE LINE FOR ME ----



--- BUT I CAN STILL GO
DOWN FIGHTING!



IT WAS AT THIS LIFE-OR-DEATH
MOMENT THAT A BOOK FELL FROM
JIM'S POCKET—AND THE DEMONS
RECOILED BEFORE IT!

IT-- IT'S THAT BIBLE THE PADRE
GAVE ME! AND IF IT'S ROUTED
THE FIENDS - I'LL TRY
IT ON THE HEAD.
MAN HIMSELF!



BEFORE THE POWER OF THE
HOLY WORD, "NATAS" CRUMPLES!
FROM HIS BODY THE AWFUL FORM
OF SATAN TOWERS MOMENTARILY--
THEN VANISHES!



LATER... I—I FEEL AS IF I'VE
BEEN ASLEEP, AND
DREAMING SOME AWFUL DREAM!
IF I COULD ONLY REMEMBER,
WHAT IT WAS, JIM --

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING
FOR US TO REMEMBER,
PEGGY!
WE'VE
GOT
EACH
OTHER--
AND THAT'S
ALL THAT
COUNTS!



STRANGE ENOUGH TO FIND A BEAUTIFUL FIGURE LYING DEEP INSIDE A LONELY CAVE--AND HORRIBLE ENOUGH TO HEAR A VOICE CROON IN DELIGHT OVER DRIPPING BLOOD! BUT THESE ARE PORTENTS OF THE TERROR TO COME--WHEN UAGGED WINGS BEAT THE MURKY DEPTHS THAT HOLD...

The VAMPIRE'S BONES!



THIS CLIFF ISN'T HIGH ENOUGH TO BE EXCITING -- BUT ANY WAY, IT'S CLOSE TO TOWN -- AND KEEPS ME IN FORM FOR REAL MOUNTAIN CLIMBING!



GARY OWENS BARELY FEELS THE SHARP FLINT EDGE THAT GASHES HIS HAND--BUT IN THE NEXT SECOND...

BLOOD--BLOOD! IT HAS FALLEN ON YOUR BONES, BELOVED--NOW I CAN RISE AND FULFILL YOUR DESTINY!

MY GOSH! THAT CAN'T BE A VOICE-- NO ONE'S NEAR HERE!



WAIT A MINUTE... A FEW DROPS OF MY BLOOD MUST HAVE FALLEN INTO THIS CRACK IN THE ROCK -- AND THAT'S WHERE THE VOICE IS COMING FROM-- SOMEWHERE BELOW! THAT MEANS A CAVE--AND I'VE GOT TO FIND ITS ENTRANCE!



**IT WAS A STRANGE, OMINOUS CAVERN
THAT GARY FOUND --**

HOLY MACKEREL -- THERE'S A STRANGE GLOW RISING FROM THAT CLEFT! AND IF THAT SLIT OF LIGHT UP THERE MEANS ANYTHING -- IT'S DIRECTLY BELOW THE CRACK IN THE ROCK -- THE ONE INTO WHICH THOSE DROPS OF BLOOD FELL!



HOLY SMOKE -- I DIDN'T IMAGINE THAT VOICE TALKING ABOUT BLOOD FALLING ON BONES! THERE'S A SKELETON SPRAWLED FIVE FEET BELOW WITH A GLINTING OBJECT JUST UNDER THE RIBS!



FOR A CHILLING SECOND, GARY REACHES DOWN, HIS FINGERS GROPING -- AND THEN --

MY GOSH, IT'S SOME KIND OF GEM -- A GREEN STONE WITH SCARLET STREAKS!



THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THAT SKELETON -- BUT WHAT I'M INTERESTED IN NOW IS THE VOICE! HOW COULD IT SPEAK TO BONES THAT HAVE BEEN LYING HERE FOR CENTURIES -- AND COME FROM ANYTHING ALIVE? WAIT -- THAT SOUND OF HEAVY BREATHING -- SOMETHING'S UP ON THAT LEDGE!



GOOD LORD! SHE MAY BE BREATHING NOW -- BUT THAT ANCIENT WINDING SHEET IS WHAT PEOPLE USED TO BE BURIED IN!



SUDDENLY -- STARING FROM THE WAXEN FEATURES IN SILENT MOCKERY --

SHE'S OPENED HER EYES! I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT GLANCE MEANS -- BUT IT HOLDS SOMETHING REPULSIVE AND EVIL!



AS THE PALE LIPS MOVE --

BLOOD HAS RELEASED ME -- BLOOD SHALL SUSTAIN ME -- FOREVER!

NOW I KNOW WHAT SPOKE! I'VE HEARD AND SEEN ENOUGH -- I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE!



BUT THEN -- A SUDDEN SLIP!



STUNNED, GARY LIES MOTIONLESS -- DIMLY HEARING AN EERIE RUSTLE ABOVE HIM -- BUT UNAWARE OF SOMETHING BLACK AND JAGGED UNFOLDING IN THE GLOOM!

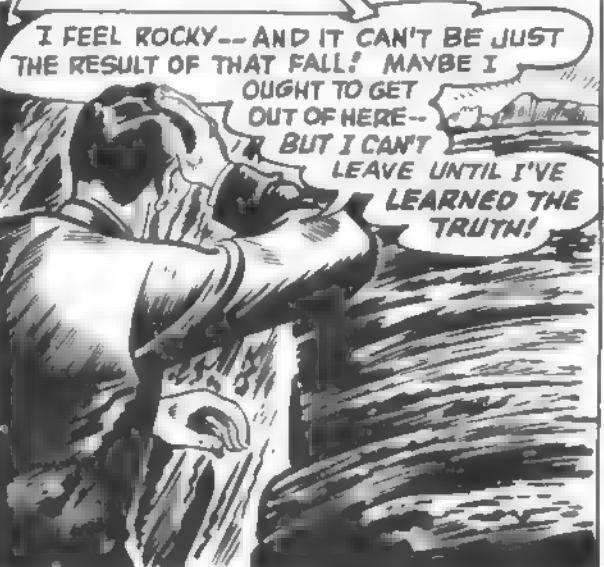


WITH THE NUMBED AWARENESS OF A NIGHTMARE --

SOMETHING'S PANTING TOWARD ME!
IT'S BENDING OVER MY FACE --
OVER MY THROAT!



MINUTES LATER --



HER FACE WAS PALE JUST A SHORT TIME WHILE AGO -- AND NOW IT HAS THE FLUSH OF A CREATURE THAT'S ALIVE -- A CREATURE WITH BLOOD!



WITH A FURY ROOTED IN STARK TERROR --

WHOSE BLOOD? WHAT KIND OF DEMON ARE YOU?



HA-HA-HA! WITH TWO SMALL FANG MARKS ON YOUR THROAT, HOW CAN YOU HAVE ANY DOUBT?



YES--I'M A FIEND WHOSE RETURN TO LIFE HAS BEEN GAINED THROUGH YOU! YOU COULD HAVE GUessed THE TRUTH IN TIME TO SAVE YOURSELF--IF ONLY YOU HAD EXAMINED THOSE BONES MORE CLOSELY!

GREAT GUNS! THEY'VE GOT SKELETON WINGS!

HE WAS THE CREATURE I LOVED--A CREATURE LIKE ME! A CURSED DAY FELL WHEN HE WAS SLAIN--DOOMING ME TO REMAIN HERE IN A TRANCE--UNTIL HUMAN BLOOD WAS SHED UPON HIS BONES!

A CREATURE LIKE YOU, EH? BUT IF HE WAS FINISHED OFF, WHAT'S THIS BUNK ABOUT YOUR LIVING FOREVER--SUPPOSE YOU'RE KILLED THE SAME WAY?

NEVER! HE WAS TRICKED INTO SWALLOWING THE THING YOU FOUND--A CHARM THAT CAN SEAR A VAMPIRE'S BODY WITH DEADLY FIRE--A BLOOD-STONE! BUT I WILL NOT MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE!

NO--THE BLOODSTONE WON'T SAVE YOU! NOW THAT YOU HAVE BEEN MASTERED BY MY FANGS, YOUR LIFE HAS ONLY ONE PURPOSE--TO SERVE AS MY PREY!

NO DICE! IT HAPPENED ONCE BUT IF YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT YOURSELF A STEADY VICTIM--YOU'D BETTER CRAWL IN WITH THOSE BONES AND GIVE UP!

THEN--BORNE ON THE BLACK PINIONS OF DOOM--

I HAVE WAITED A LONG WHILE--AND I HAVE CRAVED TOO KEENLY TO BE SPURNED!

I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM THAT FLUTTERING CREEP!

SHE'S NOT PURSUING! MAYBE EVERYTHING'S OKAY--NOW THAT I'M OUT OF THE CAVE!

DO YOU THINK YOU ARE SAFE? I HAVE A HOLD OVER YOU THAT NOTHING CAN BREAK--AND TOMORROW NIGHT--IT WILL BRING YOU BACK!

A HALF-HOUR LATER--AS GARY PACES A SUBURBAN RAILROAD PLATFORM--

NO USE FEELING JUMPY--THERE'S NO WAY SHE CAN GET ME BACK TO THAT CAVE--SHORT OF PHYSICAL FORCE! AND YET IF SHE WASN'T SURE OF HER EVIL POWER, WHY DID SHE LET ME ESCAPE--WITH THIS?

UNEXPECTEDLY--



TOUGH BREAK,
BUD! IF THAT
STONE WAS
VALUABLE--
MAYBE YOU CAN
PUT IN A CLAIM!

SKIP IT! THERE'S
NOT MUCH SENSE
PICKING UP WHAT'S
LEFT--EXCEPT THAT
I'VE GOT WHAT YOU
MIGHT CALL A
PECULIAR YEN FOR
BLOODSTONES!

LATE THE FOLLOWING NIGHT--
WAITING IN HUSHED DARKNESS--

SURE, IT'S NORMAL TO USE
LIGHTS--BUT THAT MIGHT
INDICATE I'M AFRAID--AND
IMPLANT THAT SHE-FIEND'S
POWER OF SUGGESTION
IN MY MIND!

AS A SLOW HOUR PASSES--
HEAVY WITH THE THREAT OF
IMPENDING TERROR--

STRANGE--WHAT AM I LOOKING AT?
THERE'S NOTHING BUT DARKNESS--
BUT IT SEEMS TO HAVE DEPTH--AND
MOVEMENT!



GREAT SCOTT! IT'S ARCHED
AND GAPPING--IT'S A CAVE--
AND SOMETHING'S
COMING OUT!



I KNOW YOUR FACE--
I KNOW YOUR BLOOD--
DO YOU WONDER
THAT I'VE FOUND
YOU?

I MIGHT
HAVE KNOWN...
NO MATTER WHERE
I GO--THIS IS AN
EVIL THAT CAN'T
BE ELUDED!



OKAY, YOU'RE HERE -- BUT WHAT'LL IT GET YOU? A PHANTOM CAN'T USE FANGS!

NOT YET! BUT MY SPIRIT WILL BE A LURE YOU CANNOT RESIST--DRAWING YOU TO THE SPOT WHERE THE FANGS ARE WAITING!



AS THE MOCKING FIGURE FADES--

WAITING--
WAITING FOR
A VICTIM!

A LURE I CAN'T RESIST... AND IT'S TRUE-- THAT CAVE'S EXERTING AN EVIL ATTRACTION I CAN'T FIGHT OFF!

WITH THE DESPERATION OF A MAN PITTED AGAINST DOOM--

NO--I CAN'T FIGHT! BUT I CAN HOPE--HOPE THAT MY ONE SMALL CHANCE WILL PRODUCE A MIRACLE!



HERE'S A TOAST TO TONIGHT! IT WILL BRING EITHER A BONDAGE WORSE THAN DEATH TO ME -- OR IF A LONG SHOT PAYS OFF--ANNIHILATION FOR HER!



AN HOUR LATER--LIKE A THING ENSLAVED IN WILL AND BODY--

I KNOW IT WILL BE AN ORDEAL--SOMETHING THAT'LL MAKE MY FLESH CREEP--BUT I CAN'T TURN AWAY FROM IT!

HAA! DID I SPEAK TRULY? YOU WILL HATE ME--YOU WILL BE REPelled--BUT YOU WILL OBEY MY EVERY BIDDING!



YES--I MUST OBEY! BUT THERE IS ONE THING THAT CAN END IT--SOMETHING WITH A HOLD NOT EVEN YOU CAN MATCH--DEATH!

AND YOU HOPE FOR THAT--WHEN I LOVE YOU AS ONLY SOMETHING THAT IS HUNGERED FOR CAN BE LOVED? NO, YOU WILL NOT DIE--AS LONG AS I CAN DRAW YOU CLOSE--TOWARD MY FANGS!



AGAIN, THE HOT BREATH OF EVIL PANTS DOWN-- AND AS THE VAMPIRE DRAWS NEAR--

AND NOW...
NOW...



TIME SEEMS TO FADE IN THE SHADOWS--
AND THEN--

I MENTIONED SOMETHING
BEFORE -- BUT YOU WERE TOO
EAGER TO LET ME FINISH!
**THE BLOODSTONE
HAS BEEN DESTROYED!**

WHAT DOES
IT MATTER? I CAN
FORGET THE GEM
AS READILY AS I WILL
FORGET HIM--NOW
THAT I HAVE
FOUND YOU!

YOU-- AND WHEN I THINK
OF HOW I WILL ENSLAVE
YOU-- IT MAKES ME
GIDDY WITH DELIGHT!

ARE YOU SURE IT'S
THAT? OR COULD IT
BE THAT I SAVED THE
SMASHED BLOODSTONE
AND DRANK THE POWDER--

AND THAT BY NOW
IT'S COURSING
THROUGH TWO
BLOOD
STREAMS
-- MINE
AND
YOURS!



THAT'S WHAT
I MEANT BY
DEATH,
MONSTER--
**YOUR
DEATH!**

WHAT HAVE YOU SAVED BY OUTWITTING
ME--**YOUR LIFE?** IF I MUST DIE, MY
FINAL FURY WILL BE SPENT IN TEARING
YOU APART! IF THIS MUST
BE MY TOMB--
IT WILL BE STAINED
WITH **YOUR
BLOOD!**



IN THE NEXT INSTANT--WITH A CRY THAT TAPERS
OFF INTO THE TWITTER OF A STRICKEN BAT--

AGH-EEEEEE!



FOR A MOMENT, GARY PEERS INTO THE CLEFT--AND
THEN--STEPPING OUT INTO A MOONLIGHT PURGED
OF FEAR--

WHO COULD DENY SHE WAS EVIL--
AFTER KNOWING WHAT HAPPENED TO **ME?**
AND WHO COULD DOUBT SHE WAS ANCIENT--
WATCHING HER DIE-- AND THEN FINDING
**ANOTHER
SKELETON IN
THE VAMPIRE'S
GRAVE?**

THE END

FREE!

GIANT AMERICAN EAGLE MURAL IN FULL COLOR FOR YOUR HOME!



FREE MURAL
Giant Murals This
Size Sell For Up To
\$5 EACH
In Art Stores

**WITH 4 LARGE FULL COLOR
AMERICAN SOLDIER PRINTS!**

**4 PRINTS
Only
50¢
Each**



The exquisite giant American Eagle Mural is free! Over 3 feet wide! Makes a fabulous wall decoration over sofa, mantelpiece or doorway. Murals this size actually sell for up to \$5 each in art stores. This beautiful art treasure is yours free.

The 4 American Soldiers are richly decorative in the glorious full color uniforms of a bygone American era. Each is 14 inches high. Make a lovely grouping. The small illustrations cannot possibly show the beauty and color they will add to your home. Send for yours today.

Offer May Not Be Repeated This Season
We urge you to take advantage of this unusual FREE MURAL offer now. Supplies are limited. All 4 prints are only \$2 and the American Eagle Mural is included free. Money back if not thrilled. But send today.

© R.T.V. Sales Inc. 1967

| Brookbridge Art Print Co., Inc. dept. S
| 261 Fifth Ave.
| New York, N.Y. 10016
| Please send me the 4 American Soldier art prints for only \$2.
| \$2.50 postage and include the giant American Eagle full color
| mural FREE. Full money back guarantee if I am not de-
| lighted.
| Enclosed is \$ _____
| NAME _____
| ADDRESS _____
| CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
| **SAVE! SPECIAL OFFER: Order 2 sets of all 4 American
| Soldier prints for only \$3 (you save \$1.50) and get 2 giant
| American Eagles FREE. Extra set makes a perfect gift.
| -----

AMAZING \$1 ART OFFER!

Never Shown Before

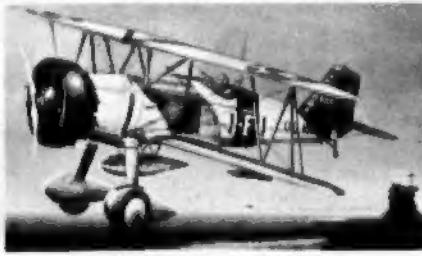
4 Glorious Paintings Reproduced in Spectacular Full Color For Your Home



Capt. E. V. Rickenbacker's NIEUPORT 28



Major Lance Hawker's
DE HAVILLAND D.H. 2



Lt. Morton T. Seligman's
CURTISS GOSHAWK F11C-2



Frank Hawks'
HEDDON JENNY

Add Adventure to Your Home
With These Classic Aeroplane Art Prints!
All 4 Large Prints Only \$1

© RTV SALES, INC. 1967

These superb art prints are exciting conversation starters. You can imagine the glories of these amazing men of pioneer flight. The art prints of those magnificent men in their classic but often clattery flying machines will roar you into many flights of fancy. They're pure adventure. The daring heroics will come alive when these prints decorate your home, office or club.

You can almost hear the roar of excitement in these magnificent reproductions of the spectacular full color paintings. You cannot truly appreciate the beauty of the large and glorious prints from the small color miniatures above. The art prints are richly and meticulously detailed. We have shown one painting larger (all 4 are the same size) to indicate the intricate detailing and excitement of this set.

OFFER MAY NOT BE REPEATED THIS SEASON

Supply is limited. We urge you to order your full color reproductions now while the supply lasts. We will send you all four reproductions for the amazing low price of \$1 plus 25¢ postage. Each fine print is 11" x 14". You will be delighted with the glorious color and excitement these 4 classic aeroplane prints will add to your home, office or club. This is your only chance to order. Be sure to fill out coupon and mail at once.

Brookbridge Art Print Co., Inc.
261 Fifth Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10016

Dept. AP

Please send me the 4 Classic Aeroplane prints 11" x 14" size for just \$1 plus 25¢ for postage on full money-back guarantee if I am not delighted.

Enclosed is \$..... (Please Print)

Name

Address

City State Zip

SAVE! SPECIAL OFFER: Order three sets of 4 prints for only \$2.50. (You save \$1.25). Extra sets make great gifts.